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14 July 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Chief
Covert Action Staff

SUBJECT : DD/I Activities in Connection with
Overseas Internal Defense

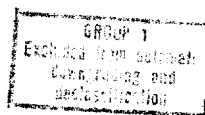
1. It appears likely that the DD/I area can make a number of contributions to the US overseas internal defense program, but the exact nature and scope of these contributions will be affected by decisions which have not yet been made. As a result, we are unable to project future activities with any certainty. At a minimum however, we should be able to continue the type of intelligence support that we have rendered during the past 18 months.

2. National Intelligence Estimates address themselves to problems of insurgency, counter-insurgency, and related matters where these are, or might become, relevant to the problem under consideration. Particular NIE's may devote considerable attention to these matters as shown in recent estimates concerning the situation in Laos*

3. During 1961 the Office of National Estimates began production of a USIB-approved document entitled, "Weekly Survey of Cold War Crisis Situations".** Matters bearing on insurgency and counter-insurgency receive close and continuing attention in this document which is designed to give early warning of foreseeable crisis situations as well as to provide weekly estimative

* SNIE 10-62, "Communist Objectives, Capabilities, and Intentions in Southeast Asia," dated 21 February 1962; SNIE 58-5-62, "Probable Communist Reactions to Certain Possible US Courses of Action with Respect to Laos," dated 31 May 1962; and SNIE 58-5/1-62, "Communist Reactions to Additional US Courses of Action in Laos and North Vietnam," dated 12 June 1962 [REDACTED]

** An example is attached



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comment on previously identified crisis situations. By direction of the USIB, ONE is also engaged in producing a series of "Regional Estimative Reviews" on the major regions of the world. These will be coordinated and distributed to recipients of the Weekly Survey. Whenever problems of counter-insurgency exist they will be treated in the appropriate regional review.

4. The Office of Current Intelligence, as part of its normal mission, has published current intelligence on situations deteriorating into insurgency and on active insurgent movements. In March 1961 OCI produced a 90-page paper covering in detail the potentially explosive situations in 31 countries. This paper was prepared at the request of DD/P to serve as an intelligence annex to a comprehensive paper on counter-insurgency. In June 1961 this paper served as the basis for a briefing given by OCI to Dr. Lloyd V. Berkner and a group of 27 representing a limited war task group organized by the Department of Defense. In addition, OCI has produced a number of special briefings and memoranda on counter-insurgency situations with particular emphasis on Laos and South Vietnam.

5. In order to make the National Intelligence Survey Program directly responsive to the needs of the US overseas internal defense program, the Office of Basic Intelligence has revised its schedule for the production of Chapter One and Section 57 on a large number of countries. These are the sections of the NIS believed most likely to be useful in connection with counter-insurgency planning.

6. Counter-insurgency actions in Southeast Asia have been supported by a number of geographic intelligence research studies. These have dealt with possible relocation sites for the Meo guerrillas; characteristics and paramilitary potential of the Kha tribes of southern Laos and Loi tribes of South Vietnam; a proposal for a possible geographic partition of Laos; and detailed information concerning the "Ho Chi Minh Trail" as a route for infiltration into South Vietnam. In addition, a Geographic Intelligence Memorandum on Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Northeast Thailand was prepared which summarized and analyzed the significance of a number of aspects of the physical and cultural geography of the area that bear on counter-insurgency actions.

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8. The Geographic Division of ORR is currently engaged in a broad project, responsive to NSAM 162, which is intended to study 11 critical countries

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his project is expected to lead to continuing requirements for support as developmental plans for active exploitation of selected groups are implemented.

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9. Aircrew E and E briefing aids for South Vietnam are being prepared for Agency operational requirements.

10. A broad program for Latin American studies in support

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It is temporarily inactive because of other high priority work concerning Latin America, but will be resumed as soon as work on the other project is complete.

11. Through its research and reporting on Sino-Soviet Bloc military and economic assistance to underdeveloped areas of the Free World, the Economic Research Area of ORR is the primary contributor to the biweekly and semiannual publications of the Economic Intelligence Committee on this subject. An additional important facet of the Bloc offensive analyzed in these publications are trade agreements, the actual movements of commodities between Communist nations and Free World underdeveloped countries, credit terms, etc. The USSR has frequently taken advantage of an international marketing problem, such as Iceland in the case of fish, to move in quickly and establish strong economic ties with such nations. These Economic Intelligence Committee publications furnish US policymakers with accurate, current reporting on

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emerging Sino-Soviet Bloc moves with the expectation that, as possible, counteractions can be taken.

12. Numerous reports have been prepared in response to requests or ascertained needs including comparisons of Bloc and Western assistance to countries in which there is Communist activity. For those areas in which the political situation has deteriorated sufficiently to actuate trade controls, such as against Cuba, ERA/ORR furnished intelligence to the Departments of State and Commerce on the types of commodities which are most sought and on violations of established controls. We are also engaged in analysis of those international shipping and air activities in which the carriers are normally employed in the delivery of supplies and equipment to insurgent groups.

13. In order to study Sino-Soviet Bloc economic activities in underdeveloped countries and their potential as well as actual impact in more detail, three new regional branches have been recently created in the International Division of the Economic Research Area. These new branches also will be concerned with the role of indigenous Communist organizations, within underdeveloped countries, insofar as these organizations are used to further the "trade and aid" offensive. Another branch has been established in this Division to study the institutional arrangements within the Sino-Soviet Bloc for developing personnel, policies, and programs for the conduct of Bloc foreign assistance, and for the training of Free World students within Communist countries.



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